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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6250

CHRISTOPHER R. HIXON, STAFF DIRECTOR
MARGARET L. DAUM, MINORITY STAFF DIRECTOR

May 19, 2017

The Honorable Scott Pruitt
Administrator
Environmental Protection Agency
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20460

Dear Administrator Pruitt:

The mission of the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is: "To enhance the economic and national security of America and promote more efficient, effective, and accountable government."¹ The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) reported a total of \$896 billion in unobligated funds across the federal government as of the end of fiscal year 2015,² including in some accounts that have been labelled "slush funds."³ We respectfully request your assistance in providing a basic accounting of the unobligated funds held by your department.

According to OMB, your agency had \$4.2 billion in unobligated funds as of the end of fiscal year 2015. We ask that you please provide the following information:

1. Of the \$4.2 billion in unobligated funds held by your agency as of the end of fiscal year 2015, please provide:
 - a. The amount of unobligated funds in unexpired accounts; and
 - b. The amount of unobligated funds in expired accounts.
2. For the unobligated funds in unexpired accounts, please provide the following information as of the end of quarter 2 of fiscal year 2017:
 - a. The amount of funds spent;
 - b. The amount of funds obligated; and
 - c. The amount of funds that remains unobligated.

¹ See *Nomination of General John F. Kelly, USMC (Ret.), to be Secretary, U.S. Department of Homeland Security: Hearing before the S. Comm. on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs, 115th Cong.* (2017).

² Office of Mgmt. and Budget, *Balances of Budget Authority: Budget of The U.S. Government 22 (2017)* available at <https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/sites/default/files/omb/budget/fy2017/assets/balances.pdf>.

³ For example, the Department of Defense's Counterterrorism Partnerships Fund was called a slush fund in 2014. See, e.g., Kristina Wong, *Lawmakers Leery of Counterterrorism Fund*, The Hill, July 20, 2014; Office of Mgmt. and Budget, *FY 2016 4th Quarter Unobligated Balances in Unexpired Accounts for Executive Branch Agencies Reported on SF 133s (2016)*, available at <https://max.omb.gov/maxportal/document/SF133/Budget/attachments/984121454/1156418183.pdf>.

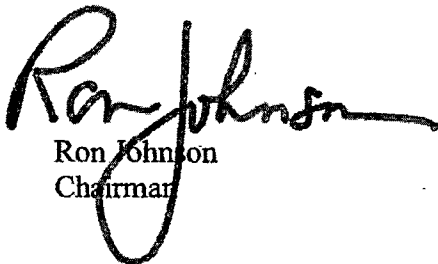
3. For the unobligated funds in expired accounts, please provide the following information as of the end of quarter 2 of fiscal year 2017:
- a. The amount of funds spent;
 - b. The amount of funds obligated; and
 - c. The amount of funds that remains unobligated.

Please provide this information as soon as possible but no later than 5:00 p.m. on June 2, 2017.


The Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs is authorized by Rule XXV of the Standing Rules of the Senate to investigate "the efficiency, economy, and effectiveness of all agencies and departments of the Government."⁴ Additionally, S. Res. 62 (115th Congress) authorizes the Committee to examine "the efficiency and economy of all branches of the Government including the possible existence of fraud, misfeasance, malfeasance, collusion, mismanagement, incompetence, corruption, or unethical practices"⁵

If you have any questions about this request, please contact Jerry Markon on Chairman Johnson's staff at (202) 224-4751 and Sarah Garcia on Ranking Member McCaskill's staff at (202) 224-2627. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Ron Johnson
Chairman



Claire McCaskill
Ranking Member

⁴ S. Rule XXV(k); *see also* S. Res. 445, 108th Cong. (2004).

⁵ S. Res. 62 § 12, 115th Cong. (2015).